**PTO Meeting Minutes**

October 12, 2017

McDonough Hall

*Present: Jennifer Fox, Guiseppina Mancuso, Elizabeth Cruz, Grisel M Robles-Schrader, Susan Donahue, Laura Milder, Susan Povilaitis, Kristen Reale, Kelli LaChance, Heather Kroll, Amy Crilly, Heather Pflederer, Ann Clements, Trevor Shoffer, Kathy Lofgren, Kim Murawski, Kelly Richard, Sarah Arnett, Moira Staggs, James Ahler, Muriel Quinn, Tracy Wysockey, Terese Cormack, Annie Brady, Karl Reineke*

**Vice Principals’ Report** (Lofgren)

Kathy Lofgren shared that in light of Nancy Zver’s departure, the office is currently redefining staffing roles. She also shared they are very grateful for the community support.

**BSJ Report** (Wysockey)

Promoted State of the School and encouraged everyone to attend – Monday, October 16th, 7pm in McDonough Hall

Overview of the Board and its five committee branches – will report updates and progress

* Leadership changes – Fr. Carl is working with the Archdiocese to create a solution for the long-term viability of the school
* Finance: will give overview of financial situation
* Technology: iPads delivered to classrooms, streamlining E-News
* Athletics: Eligibility policy instated this year, started open gyms
* Development: just finished Lion’s Leap
* Marketing: Launched Little Lions program last week, reminded people to be marketers for the school – have openings in some grades

**Communications Report** (Reale/Arnett)

* Streamlining E-News and utilizing links to school website more
* Paper directory – last call for ordering
* Any changes, please contact Sarah Arnett

**Treasurer’s Report** (Crilly)

* Working to get more walkie-talkies for the school
* Getting clarification on mulch
* Book fair a success

**Upcoming** (MacKinnon/Fox)

*Trivia Night*

* This event emerged from parent conversation – need for funding for outdoor learning spaces
* Need for all-school fundraiser that was a low-cost
* $35/person, BYOB
* All invited – open to all – parishioners, family, community members
* Cruz brought up idea of trading volunteers with another Catholic school for future events

*Halloween Parties*

* Opportunity to go home and change at lunch from 11:30 -12:30. Can also change at school
* Parade is from 1-1:30 pm in the parking lot
* Will then move to McDonough Hall for a Charlie Brown video while room parents set up for party
* Room parties run from 2-3pm
* Junior High has snack/treat at end of day – have a Junior High dance on the Friday prior to Halloween

*WSRC*

* West Suburban Reading Council -Kari Harris (Giles parent) is involved with this council
* Sponsoring a literacy event on dyslexia
* St. Giles teachers are invited to go for $10 (PTO will cover remaining cost.)
* Workshops will be held November 6th (5pm) and December 4th
* <https://www.eventbrite.com/o/west-suburban-reading-council-13474312536>
* Will be included in E-News soon

*Catholic School Week*

* Last week in January – week promoting and celebrating Catholic education
* Kicks off with open house on Sunday
* Looking for ideas for speakers
* Looking for a decorations chair – idea to ask art teacher to have a role in decorating

**Developments** (MacKinnon/Fox)

*Diversity Committee*

* Diversity Committee being formed – Lisa Schrantz is spearheading this formation. Getting support from Oak Park public schools.

*Playground*

* If interested in being part of exploratory committee for playground area, please contact Kelly Richard.
* Feedback that the parking lot that the kids play on is not safe. If you feel strongly, encouraged to reach out to Fr. Carl with concerns

*Kindness Unit*

* Stacy McEnery spearheading rock garden
* Looking to implement kindness curriculum from PK3 through 8th grade
* Annie Brady shared the Courage to be Kind campaign

**Committee Reports**

**Book Fair (Milder/Reale)**

* Thank you to everyone who participated, purchased books and/or volunteered
* Did not make as much as last year, due to earlier timing (not as close to Christmas)
* Can shop abcfairs.com all school year and receive 20% of proceeds.
* Idea to ask teachers to update wish lists to purchase later in the year
* Send bookmarks again later in year and promote on E-News

**Birthday Book Club (Pflederer)**

* Librarian hired – very excited to work with her
* Can sign up any time throughout the year

**Enrichment (Wysockey)**

* 14 classes running this fall
* Thank you to parents who stepped up to help run fall enrichment classes
* Winter session will have 16-17 classes
* Encouraging parents and teachers to run classes
* Exploring starting a Garden Club that runs through summer
* Idea to run a Tae Kwon Do class – Heather Kroll to reach out to Master Yu

**Faith and Family (Pflederer presented notes from Valaika)**

* Next Great Grades mass is October 18, 2017 for 2nd/3rd/4th
* Time to give back to our parish – in honor of 90 years, will host 90 hours of adoration. Kicks off October 15th
* Visit parish bulletin for more information (also posted on PTO website)

**Fun Lunch (Richard)**

* AAC Fundraiser next weekend – if child involved in athletics, please come help serve next week

**Wellness (Povilaitis)**

* Smoothies up and running well
* Great Apple Crunch – Thank you to Clair Molony to organizing. Great feedback from students
* Walk to School Day took place in October
* Possible speakers
* Training on zero waster/composting for teacher and students – good to have reminders
* January 30th – Raising Digital Natives -- working in coordination with St. Luke’s to be hosted at St. Luke’s
* Parent presentation on Executive Function by Dr. Georgia Bozeday– speaker already presented to teachers – possible date of November 14th

Respectfully submitted by Kristen Reale